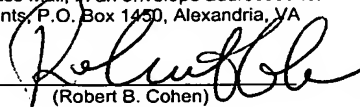


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Dated: September 14, 2006 Signature: 

(Robert B. Cohen)

1FV 2644  
Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1024  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Pre Patent Application of:  
Asada et al.

Application No.: 10/533,612

Group Art Unit: 2644

Filed: April 29, 2005

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD  
AND APPARATUS

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The references were cited in an Office Action issued in connection with applicant's corresponding Japanese application. A copy of each non-US reference is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: September 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/533,612-Conf. #6316 |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | April 29, 2005         |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Kohei Asada            |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2644                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned       |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | SONYJP 3.3-1024        |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | JP-5-083799-A   |  | 04-02-1993                        | Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd                     |   | ✓              |
|                          | BB                       | JP-8-191225-A   |  | 07-23-1996                        | Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd                     |   | ✓              |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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